

of water about 400 yards long, 20 feet wide and up to 10 feet deep, situated in a somewhat deeply eroded portion of the Kennedy Creek which flows southwards into Lake Nabberu. It is fringed with tall river gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) and extensively overgrown with rushes (*Scirpus littoralis* and *Cyperus vaginatus*). There appears, therefore, no reason for the Little Grass-bird not to nest in the locality.

A live individual and a carapace of the northern tortoise (*Chelodina steindachneri*) were also noted at Windich Spring.

—JULIAN FORD, Attadale

Field Notes on Some Rottnest Crustacea.—Early in January 1931, when investigating some holes in a freshwater seepage at the western end of Lake Bagdad, Rottnest Island, I was surprised to find the burrows occupied by a burrowing crab, *Brachynotus octodentatus*. Males, females and immatures were collected.

One evening in December 1931 I observed, at the top of the sandhills at the eastern end of Longreach Bay, a beach crab, *Ocyropodes pygoides*, come out of the bush holding in its claw a large longicorn beetle of the genus *Phoracantha*. The crab was on the way down to its burrow.

In 1929 the late Professor G. E. Nicholls described four new species of the rare marine isopod genus *Stenetrium*. The first, *S. macrochirum*, was obtained crawling on seaweed growing on the piles of the pier at Dongara. The other three, *S. spinirostrum*, *S. truncatum* and *S. glauerti*, were found on the under surface of rocks and stones in the Diving Pool near Bathurst Point, Rottnest. The first and third of these were fairly abundant but the second was represented by one damaged specimen only. I made collections of these isopods in September 1927 and 1928, November 1928, December 1929, February and November 1930, January and February 1931, December 1932, and January 1933.

—L. GLAUERT, W.A. Museum, Perth

Nesting of the Pink-eared Duck near Perth.—In his note on the increase in abundance of the Pink-eared Duck (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*) in Western Australia, Julian Ford (*W.A. Nat.*, 8, 1962: 103) records that in the South-West this species is known to breed on the fresh-water swamps and lakes at Gundaring, Moora, Dowerin, Carnamah and Naraling, and only visits the coastal plain near Perth during the summer and autumn months when many of the inland expanses of water have evaporated.

However, on January 30, 1963, when I visited Lake Claremont (Butler's Swamp) with Miss M. Pollock, a visiting ornithologist from Northern Ireland, we saw two Pink-eared Ducks which were accompanied by four small ducklings. There were about 30 birds of this species on the swamp, but we only saw these two birds with young. The ducklings were easily distinguished by the striking patterning (mentioned by John Warham in his paper on the Pink-eared Duck in *The Bird-Watcher*, 1 (2), 1959: 27) which made them

resemble miniature adults. The party was swimming in line astern with one adult leading, followed by two ducklings one behind the other, then the other adult and the last two ducklings, also one behind the other. One adult was much more brightly coloured than the other.

—D. A. ROOK, Nedlands

[On March 21, 1963, Mr. D. W. Lamm, of Canberra, and I visited Butler's Swamp and saw a Pink-eared Duck accompanied by several small ducklings in close array. There were at least five and possibly six ducklings present. These would be a much later brood than that reported above by Miss Rook. Several adult Pink-eared Ducks were scattered over the swamp.—D. L. SERVENTY.]

Additions to the Esperance Bird-list.—The following 14 species, not recorded by E. H. and L. E. Sedgwick (*W.A. Nat.*, 2: 111) or V. N. Serventy (*W.A. Nat.*, 3: 95), were observed during brief visits to the Esperance district in March 1958, December 1959, and December 1962.

Swamp-hen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*). Two on a small permanent pool 3 miles N. of Mt. Le Grand.

Little Grebe (*Podiceps novae-hollandiae*). A few with the more numerous Hoary-headed Grebes on the Washpool, a permanent fresh-water lagoon near the mouth of the Lort River.

Pelican (*Pelecanus conspicillatus*). A flock of 14 circling above the flats and dunes 12 miles E. of Esperance.

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*). Three with a Greenshank at Lake Condingup, a fresh-water lagoon 40 miles E. of Shark Lake.

Brown Bittern (*Botaurus poicilopterus*). Heard at night at Shark Lake, 6 miles N. of Esperance.

Wood Duck (*Chenonetta jubata*). A flock of c. 80 on the Washpool.

Whistling Eagle (*Haliastur sphenurus*). One 3 miles N. of Esperance.

Smoker Parrot (*Polytelis anthocephalus*). A flock in the wooded (*Eucalyptus occidentalis*) valley of the Young River.

Elegant Parrot (*Neophema elegans*). One beside the Lort River at the Ravensthorpe-Esperance road crossing.

Frogmouth (*Podargus strigoides*). An adult and juvenile in paperbark scrub round a swamp 14 miles E. of Esperance.

Little Grass-bird (*Megalurus granivus*). Many calling in the dense beds of *Cladium articulation* growing round the edge of Shark Lake.

Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus stentoreus*). At Shark Lake with the grass-birds.

White-cheeked Honeyeater (*Phylidonyris niger*). A flock in flowering *Banksia speciosa* scrub at Lake Condingup.

Squeaker (*Strepera versicolor*). In scrub towards the mouth of the Dalyup River.

—G. M. STORR, W.A. Museum